

CLAIMS:

1. An information carrier comprising a synchronization area, said synchronization area comprising a predetermined synchronization pattern for synchronizing a clock frequency in a device in which the information carrier is used, *characterized in that* the predetermined synchronization pattern comprises a first part and a second part, the second
5 part being distinguishable from the first part.
2. An information carrier as claimed in claim 1, *characterized in that* the predetermined synchronization pattern is composed of marks and of spaces between the marks, and in that the first part of the predetermined synchronization pattern contains marks
10 having a first length and spaces having a second length whereas the second part of the synchronization pattern contains marks having a third length and spaces having a fourth length, the first length being different from the third length and the second length being different from the fourth length,
- 15 3. An information carrier as claimed in claim 1, *characterized in that* the total length of all the marks in the predetermined synchronization pattern is substantially equal to the total length of all the spaces in the predetermined synchronization pattern.
4. An information carrier comprising a recording area for writing patterns which
20 represent user information and a header area comprising patterns which represent header information, said header area comprising a synchronization area comprising a predetermined synchronization pattern for synchronizing a clock frequency in a device in which the information carrier is used, *characterized in that* the predetermined synchronization pattern comprises a first part and a second part, the second part being distinguishable from the first
25 part.
5. An information carrier as claimed in claim 4, *characterized in that* the predetermined synchronization pattern is composed of marks and of spaces between the marks, and in that the first part of the predetermined synchronization pattern contains marks

having a first length and spaces having a second length whereas the second part of the synchronization pattern contains marks having a third length and spaces having a fourth length, the first length being different from the third length and the second length being different from the fourth length.

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6. An information carrier as claimed in claim 5, *characterized in that* the total length of all the marks in the predetermined synchronization pattern is substantially equal to the total length of all the spaces in the predetermined synchronization pattern.

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7. An information carrier as claimed in claim 5 or 6, *characterized in that* the header information is converted into patterns in the header area according to a (d,k) Run Length Limited modulation code, in which d represents a predetermined natural number larger than zero and k represents a predetermined natural number larger than d, and the length of each mark and each space expressed as a number of channel bit lengths (T), and in that the first part of the predetermined synchronization pattern contains marks having a first length of (d+1) times the channel bit length, and spaces having a second length of (d+1) times the channel bit length, and the second part of the predetermined synchronization pattern contains marks having a third length of (k+1) times the channel bit length and spaces having a fourth length of (k+1) times the channel bit length.

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8. An information carrier as claimed in claim 7, *characterized in that* the predetermined synchronization pattern also comprises a third part, which third part contains marks having a length of (k-d) times the channel bit length and spaces also having a length of (k-d) times the channel bit length.

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9. An information carrier comprising a recording area for writing patterns which represent user information and header areas comprising patterns which represent header information, said recording area comprising synchronization areas which comprise a predetermined synchronization pattern for synchronizing a clock frequency in a device in which the information carrier is used, the user information being converted into patterns in the recording area according to a (1,7) Run Length Limited modulation code, the predetermined synchronization pattern being composed of marks and of spaces between the marks and the length of each mark and each space being expressed as a number of channel bit lengths (T),

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characterized in that the predetermined synchronization pattern comprises a first part containing marks having a length of 2 times the channel bit length and spaces having a length of 2 times the channel bit length, and also comprises a second part containing marks having a length of 5 times the channel bit length and spaces having a length of 5 times the channel bit length, and also comprises a third part containing marks having a length of 3 times the channel bit length and spaces having a length of 3 times the channel bit length.

10. A recording method for writing information patterns which represent user information onto a recording area of an information carrier, said information patterns comprising a predetermined synchronization pattern for synchronizing a clock frequency in a device in which the information carrier is used, said predetermined synchronization pattern being composed of marks and of spaces between the marks, the length of each mark and each space being expressed as a number of channel bit lengths (T) and the user information being converted into information patterns according to a (1,7) Run Length Limited modulation code, characterized in that the predetermined synchronization pattern comprises a first part containing marks having a length of 2 times the channel bit length and spaces having a length of 2 times the channel bit length, and also comprises a second part containing marks having a length of 5 times the channel bit length and spaces having a length of 5 times the channel bit length, and also comprises a third part containing marks having a length of 3 times the channel bit length and spaces having a length of 3 times the channel bit length.

11. A reading device for reproducing information from an information carrier which comprises a predetermined synchronization pattern, the reading device comprising reading means for reading the predetermined synchronization pattern and synchronization means for setting a clock frequency and for setting a dynamic range of an amplifier in response to the predetermined synchronization pattern read, characterized in that the synchronization means comprise means for setting the clock frequency and for setting the dynamic range of an amplifier in response to the predetermined synchronization pattern according to any one of the foregoing information carrier claims.

12. A recording device for writing patterns which represent user information onto an information carrier which comprises a predetermined synchronization pattern, the recording device comprising reading means for reading the predetermined synchronization pattern, synchronization means for setting a clock frequency and for setting a dynamic range

of an amplifier in response to the predetermined synchronization pattern read, *characterized in that* the synchronization means comprise means for setting the clock frequency and for setting the dynamic range of an amplifier in response to the predetermined synchronization pattern according to any one of the foregoing information carrier claims.